



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

SCIENCE

A WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE, PUBLISHING THE
OFFICIAL NOTICES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE: S. NEWCOMB, Mathematics; R. S. WOODWARD, Mechanics; E. C. PICKERING
Astronomy; T. C. MENDENHALL, Physics; R. H. THURSTON, Engineering; IRA REMSEN, Chemistry;
CHARLES D. WALCOTT, Geology; W. M. DAVIS, Physiography; HENRY F. OSBORN, Paleon-
tology; W. K. BROOKS, C. HART MERRIAM, Zoology; S. H. SCUDDER, Entomology; C. E.
BESSEY, N. L. BRITTON, Botany; C. S. MINOT, Embryology, Histology; H. P.
BOWDITCH, Physiology; WILLIAM H. WELCH, Pathology;
J. McKEEN CATTELL, Psychology.

FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 1903.

CONTENTS:

*Modern Views on Matter: The Realization of
a Dream:* SIR WILLIAM CROOKES..... 993

Scientific Books:—

Index Animalium: DR. WM. H. DALL.
Muir and Ritchie's Manual of Bacteriology:
DR. JOSEPH MCFARLAND.....1003

Societies and Academics:—

Academy of Science of St. Louis: PRO-
FESSOR WILLIAM TRELEASE. *The Geolog-
ical Society of Washington:* DR. W. C.
MENDENHALL1007

Discussion and Correspondence:—

*The Proposed Biological Laboratory at the
Tortugas:* PROFESSOR P. H. ROLFS, J.
FRED. CLARKE. *'Mount Pelee':* DR. ED-
MUND OTIS HOVEY.....1008

Shorter Articles:—

On the Limits of Unaided Vision: HEBER
D. CURTIS. *A Modification in Measuring
Cranial Capacity:* DR. ALÈS HRDLICKA.
*New Departures in the Concilium Bib-
liographicum:* DR. HERBERT HAVILAND
FIELD1010

*Report of the Ichthyological Research Com-
mittee*1016

*Opportunity for Geological Research in Hon-
duras*1018

The New York College of Forestry.....1018

Scientific Notes and News.....1019

University and Educational News.....1024

MODERN VIEWS ON MATTER: THE REAL- IZATION OF A DREAM.*

FOR nearly a century men who devote themselves to science have been dreaming of atoms, molecules, ultramundane particles, and speculating as to the origin of matter; and now to-day they have got so far as to admit the possibility of resolving the chemical elements into simpler forms of matter, or even of refining them altogether away into ethereal vibrations or electrical energy.

This dream has been essentially a British dream, and we have become speculative and imaginative to an audacious extent, almost belying our character of a purely practical nation. The notion of impenetrable mysteries has been dismissed. A mystery is a thing to be solved—'and man alone can master the impossible.' There has been a vivid new start. Our physicists have remodeled their views as to the constitution of matter and as to the complexity if not the actual decomposability of the chemical elements. To show how far we have been propelled on the strange new road, how dazzling are the wonders that waylay the researcher, we have but to recall—matter in a fourth state, the genesis of the elements, the dissociation of

MSS. intended for publication and books, etc., intended for review should be sent to the responsible editor, Professor J. McKeen Cattell, Garrison-on-Hudson, N. Y.

* An address delivered before the Congress of Applied Chemistry at Berlin, June 5, 1903, from proof under correction.